



Genotype and Phenotype



Definition



Every living organism is...

... the outward physical manifestation of
internally coded, inheritable, information.

There are two parts to this definition ...

~~Phenotype~~

This is the "outward, physical manifestation" of the organism. These are the physical parts, the sum of the atoms, molecules, macromolecules, cells, structures, metabolism, energy utilization, tissues, organs, reflexes and behaviors; anything that is part of the observable structure, function or behavior of a living organism.

~~Genotype~~

This is the "internally coded, inheritable information" carried by all living organisms. This stored information is used as a "blueprint" or set of instructions for building and maintaining a living creature. These instructions are found within almost all cells (the "internal" part), they are written in a coded language (the genetic code), they are copied at the time of cell division or reproduction and are passed from one generation to the next ("inheritable"). These instructions are intimately involved with all aspects of the life of a cell or an organism. They control everything from the formation of protein macromolecules, to the regulation of metabolism and synthesis.

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Science at a Distance

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Search Dictionary: **inheritable**



Meaning of INHERITABLE

Pronunciation: in'heritubul

WordNet Dictionary

Definition: [adj] that can be inherited; "inheritable traits such as eye color"; "an inheritable title"

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Synonyms: ancestral, familial, genetic, hereditary, heritable, inherited, inheriting, monogenic, nee, patrim polygenic, transmissible, transmitted

Antonyms: nonheritable, noninheritable

Webster's 1913 Dictionary

Definition:

- \In*her"it*a*ble\, a.
1. Capable of being inherited; transmissible or descendible; as, an inheritable estate or title. --Blackstone.
 2. Capable of being transmitted from parent to child; as, inheritable qualities or infirmities.

3. [Cf. OF. enheritable, inheritable.] Capable of taking by inheritance, or of receiving by descent; capable of succeeding to, as an heir.

By attainder . . . the blood of the person attainted is so corrupted as to be rendered no longer inheritable. --Blackstone.

The eldest daughter of the king is also alone inheritable to the crown on failure of issue male. --Blackstone.

(Inheritable blood), blood or relationship by which a person becomes qualified to be an heir, or to transmit possessions by inheritance.

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